



Council Of Energy Resource Tribes

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Executive Director:

Ed Gabriel

June 11, 1979

Governor Floyd Correa
Pueblo of Laguna Council
Box 194
Laguna, NM 87026

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SK

Date: 6/12/79

Dear Governor Correa:

Pursuant to our meeting and your request of May 22, 1979, we have incorporated and consolidated the recommendations and stipulations of Kilborn/NUS, BIA and CERT, concerning the Anaconda Company's proposed push-back in the vicinity of Highway 279. Copies of the individual recommendations and stipulations are attached.

RECOMMENDATIONS & STIPULATIONS

1. We concur with the Council's decision to utilize open pit mining operations rather than underground mining operations.
2. We concur with the Council's decision in selecting alternate "B" for the rerouting of Highway 279. If, for reasons of lack of funding, alternate "B" is not constructed, alternate "A" should not automatically be accepted.
3. The sides of the final pit configuration (highwall) to be left at a slope which is safe, stable and modified enough to lessen erosion. It is felt that a ratio of 1½ horizontal: 1 vertical would be adequate for these purposes. Benches will be permitted in the highwall, and are indeed recommended; the concern is for the overall slope of the highwall.
4. The pit should be backfilled with suitable material to at least four feet above the Jackpile Sandstone.
5. Interior backfill slopes should be as gentle as possible, 4 horizontal: 1 vertical or 5 horizontal: 1 vertical. This stipulation and item #3 above are guidelines, and must be reasonable enough so as not to endanger the economics of the proposed operation.



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6. The bottom of the pit should be left relatively flat without any area left to accumulate ground water.
7. All available and suitable "topsoil" in the area of the proposed mine be stockpiled and eventually replaced on the backfill to a minimum depth of two feet. The remaining "topsoil" material could be used on other areas of the mine as reclamation proceeds.
8. Anaconda's reclamation plan should include the following information at a minimum
 - an estimate of available topsoil
 - storage location and/or placement depth of topsoil
 - slope configurations and seedbed preparation
 - seeding mixtures (species and rates)
 - use of containerized material
 - use of mulch (type, application rate and method)
 - fertilizer type and application rate
9. Native grass and shrub species should be used when the area is revegetated, and both CERT and the Superintendent at Southern Pueblos Agency should be consulted for other recommendations prior to rehabilitation.
10. The recommendation plan submitted by Anaconda should be viewed as flexible, allowing modifications based on advances in reclamation technology, if approved by the tribe.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the above recommendations and stipulations, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,

C. David White

C. David White
Environmental Analyst

CDW:yr

cc: Ed Gabriel
Sean Muller
David Krebs
Constance Brown
Kenneth Payton

Attachment

RECEIVED

JUN 18 1979

PUEBLO OF LAGUNA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE